

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification at page 1, line 6, as follows to add the following priority claim:

This application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) from United States Provisional Application Serial No. 60/217,778, filed February 27, 2001, and is a continuation-in-part of and claims priority from WO 00/56988, filed March 24, 2000 titled “Immortal Microvascular Endothelial Cells And Uses Thereof”, which claims priority to the United States Provisional Application Serial No. 60/126,015, filed March 24, 1999.